

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: US Patent Application 09/261,080
Filed March 2, 1999
Applicant Schuster
Examiner Rodney Fuller
Art Unit 2851
Telephone (703) 306-5641
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Attorney Docket (Z) 98005 P US

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Examiner Fuller:

I am faxing a proposed amendment to claims 15 and 16.

On page 3 of the final action you state you observe that Kubota disclosed a pellicle "made with" magnesium fluoride. Kubota's pellicle consists of organic material, with only a thin layer of magnesium fluoride added. Kubota does not disclose a pellicle essentially consisting of fluoride crystal. This recitation clearly distinguishes from Kubota's teaching.

Thank you in advance for reviewing and commenting the following proposed change to claims 15 and 16.

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Proposal in the Claims:

15 (Amended three times): A pellicle essentially consisting of fluoride crystal.

Claim 16: The pellicle according to claim 15, comprising a fluoride selected from the group consisting of CaF_2 , BaF_2 , or MgF_2 .

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify this correspondence (2 pages) is being sent by facsimile (703-746-4360) to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 1, 2002.



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